

Directive (EU) 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2015 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks (Recast) (Text with EEA relevance)

CHAPTER 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Article 1 Scope
Article 2 Definitions

CHAPTER 2

SUBSTANTIVE LAW ON TRADE MARKS

SECTION 1

Signs of which a trade mark may consist

- Article 3 Signs of which a trade mark may consist

SECTION 2

Grounds for refusal or invalidity

- Article 4 Absolute grounds for refusal or invalidity
Article 5 Relative grounds for refusal or invalidity
Article 6 Establishment a posteriori of invalidity or revocation of a trade mark
Article 7 Grounds for refusal or invalidity relating to only some of the goods or services
Article 8 Lack of distinctive character or of reputation of an earlier trade mark precluding a declaration of invalidity of a registered trade mark
Article 9 Preclusion of a declaration of invalidity due to acquiescence

SECTION 3

Rights conferred and limitations

- Article 10 Rights conferred by a trade mark
Article 11 The right to prohibit preparatory acts in relation to the use of packaging or other means
Article 12 Reproduction of trade marks in dictionaries
Article 13 Prohibition of the use of a trade mark registered in the name of an agent or representative
Article 14 Limitation of the effects of a trade mark
Article 15 Exhaustion of the rights conferred by a trade mark
Article 16 Use of trade marks

- Article 17 Non-use as defence in infringement proceedings
Article 18 Intervening right of the proprietor of a later registered trade mark as defence in infringement proceedings

SECTION 4

Revocation of trade mark rights

- Article 19 Absence of genuine use as ground for revocation
Article 20 Trade mark having become generic or misleading indication as grounds for revocation
Article 21 Revocation relating to only some of the goods or services

SECTION 5

Trade marks as objects of property

- Article 22 Transfer of registered trade marks
Article 23 Rights in rem
Article 24 Levy of execution
Article 25 Licensing
Article 26 Applications for a trade mark as an object of property

SECTION 6

Guarantee or certification marks and collective marks

- Article 27 Definitions
Article 28 Guarantee or certification marks
Article 29 Collective marks
Article 30 Regulations governing use of a collective mark
Article 31 Refusal of an application
Article 32 Use of collective marks
Article 33 Amendments to the regulations governing use of a collective mark
Article 34 Persons entitled to bring an action for infringement
Article 35 Additional grounds for revocation
Article 36 Additional grounds for invalidity

CHAPTER 3

PROCEDURES

SECTION 1

Application and registration

- Article 37 Application requirements
Article 38 Date of filing
Article 39 Designation and classification of goods and services
Article 40 Observations by third parties
Article 41 Division of applications and registrations
Article 42 Class fees

SECTION 2

Procedures for opposition, revocation and invalidity

- Article 43 Opposition procedure
- Article 44 Non-use as defence in opposition proceedings
- Article 45 Procedure for revocation or declaration of invalidity
- Article 46 Non-use as a defence in proceedings seeking a declaration of invalidity
- Article 47 Consequences of revocation and invalidity

SECTION 3

Duration and renewal of registration

- Article 48 Duration of registration
- Article 49 Renewal

SECTION 4

Communication with the office

- Article 50 Communication with the office

CHAPTER 4

ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

- Article 51 Cooperation in the area of trade mark registration and administration
- Article 52 Cooperation in other areas

CHAPTER 5

FINAL PROVISIONS

- Article 53 Data protection
- Article 54 Transposition
- Article 55 Repeal
- Article 56 Entry into Force
- Article 57 Addressees

ANNEX

Status: EU Directives are being published on this site to aid cross referencing from UK legislation. After IP completion day (31 December 2020 11pm) no further amendments will be applied to this version.

- (1) [OJ C 327, 12.11.2013, p. 42.](#)
- (2) Position of the European Parliament of 25 February 2014 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and position of the Council at first reading of 10 November 2015 (not yet published in the Official Journal). Position of the European Parliament of 15 December 2015.
- (3) Directive 2008/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2008 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks ([OJ L 299, 8.11.2008, p. 25](#)).
- (4) Council Regulation (EC) No 207/2009 of 26 February 2009 on the Community trade mark ([OJ L 78, 24.3.2009, p. 1](#)).
- (5) Directive 2006/114/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 concerning misleading and comparative advertising ([OJ L 376, 27.12.2006, p. 21](#)).
- (6) Regulation (EU) No 608/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 concerning customs enforcement of intellectual property rights and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1383/2003 ([OJ L 181, 29.6.2013, p. 15](#)).
- (7) Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data ([OJ L 281, 23.11.1995, p. 31](#)).
- (8) Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data ([OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1](#)).
- (9) First Council Directive 89/104/EEC of 21 December 1988 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks ([OJ L 40, 11.2.1989, p. 1](#)).